

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/594,677

Examiner

Thuy V. Tran

Applicant(s)

INOUE, TAKAO

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09/28/06 & prel. amendment conc. filed.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 10-17.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 09/28/2006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to the Applicant's communication filed on 09/28/2006 and preliminary amendment concurrently filed therewith. In virtue of this amendment, original claims 1-9 are canceled, claims 10-17 are newly added; and thus, claims 10-17 are now presented in the instant application.

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

This Examiner's Amendment is made solely to correct the abstract for a proper format and it is believed that it does not change the scope or characterization of the claimed invention. It includes:

In the specification, page 53, Abstract, "having a driving element ... A" from line 4 to line 8 has been deleted, and --comprising a-- has been inserted therefor.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 10-17 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest:

- An illumination control circuit for driving and controlling a light emission element, said circuit comprising a compensation device connected in series with the light

emission element and the driving transistor as well as the power supply, for power-amplifying the detection voltage and generating a compensation voltage which follows the detection voltage, thereby generating a differential voltage between the power source voltage of the power supply and the compensation voltage, between tow ends of the light emission element and the driving transistor, wherein when there is a change in the power source voltage of the power supply, the compensation device generates a compensation voltage, so as to make a changing rate of the differential voltage applied between tow ends of the light emission element and the driving transistor, to become smaller than a changing rate of the power source voltage which has involved a change, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 10 (claims 11-14 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 10); and

- An illumination control circuit for driving and controlling a light emission element, said circuit comprising a compensation device for controlling said driving transistor in accordance with a DC voltage of the control signal, and causing said power supply to supply a driving voltage proportional to the DC voltage to said light emission element, wherein when there is a change in the power source of the power supply, the DC voltage of the control signal changes at a changing rate smaller than a changing rate of a changed power source voltage in accordance with said coefficient, thereby inhibiting a driving electric power of said driving transistor on said light emission element in accordance with said coefficient, in combination with the remaining

claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 15 (claims 16-17 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 15).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Priority

4. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

5. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 09/28/2006 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Drawings

6. The drawings submitted on 09/28/2006 are accepted.

Citation of relevant prior art

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Prior art Roberts et al. (Pub. No.: US 2004/0183482 A1) discloses an electrical adapter using LEDs as illumination sources;

Prior art Archenhod et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,963,175 B2) discloses an illumination control system; and

Prior art Tsunekawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,076,977) discloses a light measurement circuit.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1828. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM -4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Owens Douglas can be reached on (571) 272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

11/26/2007



**THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**